

Matthew Hyleck
www.matthewhyleck.com
Matt.hyleck@baltimoreclayworks.org
Matt.hyleck@gmail.com

Utilitarian Material Statement: Stoneware and Porcelain
2010

My ceramic works are informed directly by my love for natural objects coupled with a passion for utilitarian form. Natural shapes and symbols are always finding their way into my work. My current works have evolved from my search for place and the placement of particular objects within a defined landscape environment. The dialogue between an object, nature and its environment is what I look to capture through my functional ceramic work. I am exploring the ways in which the landscape changes through the seasons; specifically how a field can be defined by its location, refined by its designated purpose and constrained by its fenced borders.

My goal is to create utilitarian pots for every day use; simple forms that speak primarily about functionality and the intimacy gained through daily use. The life and measure of a pot becomes complete only when it is used and so I strive to make work not for the shelf but for the table. I am very interested in telling a simple story or narrative about place; whether that is an objects place in time, a direct reference to location or an object's intended place within the house.

MATTHEW HYLECK is a resident artist of Baltimore Clayworks whose outstanding functional pots have earned him a Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship award in Craft both in 2007 and 2005. He was identified in the May 2008 Ceramics Monthly as an "emerging artist" and his studio work has received multiple awards including the 2009 NCECA Biennial exhibition and 2009 Jersey Shore Clay National. Galleries throughout the mid-Atlantic have exhibited his sophisticated Shino-glazed utilitarian stoneware and porcelain. He currently serves as the director of education at Baltimore Clayworks Mt. Washington campus. You may view his recent work at www.matthewhyleck.com